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Chamber Representatives To Attend Fluoride Meet

Delegation of Columbia Falls Chamber of Commerce members are expected to attend the May 21 public hearings in Helena concerning proposed fluoride emission standards.

Charles E. Taylor, reduction division (plant) manager for

A n a c o n d a Aluminum Co., spoke briefly during the chamber session, Tuesday. He commented that no plant in the United States or in the world, can meet such standards as proposed by the Montana State Board of Health. He noted that with fourth and fifth potlines

at AAC, there is 7,500 pounds of fluoride emitted daily. Proposed regulation would permit 6.060 pounds of fluoride per pot per day which would allow 864 pounds at Anaconda Aluminum Co.

When questioned concerning other methods, Taylor noted

that AAC would still be a modified plant. He referred to economic conditions and compared a modified plant to "an old home which an owner would remodel." Taylor told of company's decision to construct the aluminum plant in Columbia Falls with prime factors including available Bonneville power here and wire mill in Great Falls.

However, he added AAC simply cannot comply with proposed 864 pounds per day luoride emission. The plant nanager added: "We would ike to be here on and on ..." noting the plant is "not in a lery good position to be pioners in this field."

Mayor Roger Elliott inquired concerning health standards in trelation to percentage and was told "no threat to human health even at 7,500 pounds."

In answer to a question, Taylor said there are no emission standards in the United States, but there are ambient air standards in Washington. The Washington standards are three times more lenient than those in Montana.